

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 18-29 and 31-34 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 18, 19, 26 and 31 are amended and claims 17 and 30 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter disclosed therein. Reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Sung during the personal interview held August 31, 2006, are gratefully appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

Applicants gratefully appreciate the indication that claims 17-19, 30 and 31 are allowable.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-5, 8, 20-22, 24-26, 29 and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Iwanczyk (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0021382); claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Iwanczyk in view of Cox (U.S. Patent No. 5,464,984); claims 6, 7, 9, 10, 23, 27 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Iwanczyk; claims 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Iwanczyk in view of Zur (U.S. Patent No. 6,243,441); and claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Iwanczyk in view of Pieters (U.S. Patent No. 3,787,620). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, the incorporation of the allowable subject matter of claim 17 into independent claim 1 and of claim 30 into independent claim 26 renders independent claims 1 and 26 allowable. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 26, and their dependent claims, are now allowable. Thus, withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16, 18-29 and 31-34 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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